

# APD ALERT

## TRANSITION TO GREEN CLEANING PRODUCTS



### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Alert is to notify acquisition personnel that all future procurement of cleaning products and services require green cleaning products. EO 13423 and EO 13514 require the Federal Government to use biobased products and to make its facilities sustainable. An important part of being sustainable is using green cleaning products. Sustainability and green cleaning products are required by P&P 134.2, Energy, Water, and Sustainability Policy. It states, "Locations will use green cleaning products exclusively, except where they do not meet mission requirements." There is also a procurement preference for biobased products if they are comparable in price, performance, and availability.

### **PROCEDURES**

Please begin transitioning right away to the use of green cleaning products so that, except where they do not meet mission requirements, by the end of FY 2010 all cleaning products in use, including in custodial contracts, in Research, Education, and Economics (REE) facilities are green. This includes ARS, NASS, ERS and NIFA. Early adoption is encouraged, as soon as current stocks are consumed.

Green cleaning products are products that perform the same functions as conventional cleaning products but are lower emitting, less toxic, biodegradable, and environmentally safer. They include all purpose cleaners, sanitizers, deodorizers, glass cleaners, carpet cleaners, hand soap, laundry detergent, bathroom cleaners, and many other commonly used janitorial products. The use of green cleaning products will improve indoor air quality and working conditions by removing a major source of potential exposure to toxic and irritating chemicals, while providing effective and cost competitive cleaning solutions. There are many manufacturers of green cleaning products, and they are widely available.

## **REFERENCES**

Language for custodial contracts can be found at

<http://www.usda.gov/procurement/programs/biobased/CustodialJanitorialFY08.pdf>.

Green cleaning products can be found in the biopreferred catalog at

<http://www.catalog.biopreferred.gov/bioPreferredCatalog/faces/jsp/catalogLanding.jsp>.

P&P 134.2 can be found at <http://www.afm.ars.usda.gov/ppweb/PDF/134-02.pdf>.

EO 13423 can be found at <http://www.wbdg.org/ccb/FED/FMEO/eo13423.pdf>

EO 13514 can be found at <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/pdf/E9-24518.pdf>.

A free webcast on green cleaning products can be found at

<https://arsnet.usda.gov/sites/AFM/FD/EA/Lists/Events/DispForm.aspx?ID=93>.

USDA Green Purchasing Affirmative Procurement Program (GPAPP)

<http://www.afm.ars.usda.gov/acquisitions/pdffiles/APDALERT2008-07.pdf>

USDA Designates 27 Biobased Items for Federal Procurement

<http://www.afm.ars.usda.gov/acquisitions/pdffiles/APDAlert2008-13.pdf>

Standardization of Biobased Products Language

<http://www.afm.ars.usda.gov/acquisitions/pdffiles/ALERT-2006-11.pdf>

High Performance and Sustainable Buildings Guidance

[http://www.wbdg.org/pdfs/hpsb\\_guidance.pdf](http://www.wbdg.org/pdfs/hpsb_guidance.pdf)

Questions regarding this Alert can be directed to Michael Barnes on 301-504-1734 or via e-mail at [Michael.Barnes@ars.usda.gov](mailto:Michael.Barnes@ars.usda.gov)

ISSUE DATE: November 2009

APD ALERT NO. 2010-03